

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06

FEAE-00 DODE-00 OIC-02 PM-04 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 COME-00 AID-05 /138 W  
----- 031779

P R 281139Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4202

INFO ERDA HQ WASHDC

ERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIO DE JANEIRO 3661

FROM USDEL IAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : IAEA AORG OCON SF

SUBJECT : IAEA 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE - DISCUSSIONS WITH  
SOUTH AFRICAN DEL TO IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE

1. US REPS (KRATZER, BORIGHT, SLAWSON) HELD DISCUSSION WITH  
SOUTH AFRICAN AEB PRESIDENT ROUX. ROUX ASKED FOR STATUS ON  
EXPORT OF NEXT SHIPMENT OF HIGH-ENRICHED URANIUM FOR SOUTH  
AFRICAN RESEARCH REACTOR. KRATZER SUMMARIZED SITUATION IN  
EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESS, SAID FRANKLY WE ARE NOT ANXIOUS  
TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS SHIPMENT UNTIL ACTUALLY NECESSARY,  
AND SAID WE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS NO REAL URGENCY. ROUX SAID  
SOUTH AFRICA HAS ENOUGH HEU TO OPERATE RESEARCH REACTOR UNTIL  
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JUNE OR JULY 1977, BUT NEEDS TO KNOW BY END OF 1976 WHAT THE

CHANCES ARE OF GETTING ADDITIONAL FUEL IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER REACTOR SHOULD BE OPERATED AT LOWER POWER LEVEL TO CONSERVE EXISTING FUEL. KRATZER SAID WE WOULD TRY TO TAKE ACTION ON THIS EXPORT AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM ROUX AS TO POSSIBILITY OF AMENDED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION TO COVER INCREASED POWER REACTOR FUEL, KRATZER INDICATED THAT SUCH AMENDMENT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT AND TIME CONSUMING.

2. KRATZER THEN RAISED QUESTION OF SAFEGUARDS ON SOUTH AFRICAN ENRICHMENT PLANTS. ROUX REFERRED TO LETTER SENT BY SOUTH AFRICA TO IAEA INDICATING DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL ENRICHMENT PLANT. AFTER WELCOMING THIS, US PARTICIPANTS ASKED WHETHER SOUTH AFRICAN PILOT ENRICHMENT PLANT WOULD ALSO BE COVERED BY SAFEGUARDS. ROUX REPLIED THAT IT WOULD BE SIMPLER TO PROTECT SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY IN COMMERCIAL PLANT, SINCE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE COVERED BY HOUSINGS, AND THERE WOULD BE CONSTANT EXPERIMENTAL CHANGES IN PILOT PLANT. THUS SOUTH AFRICA WOULD PREFER TO START WITH SAFEGUARDS ON SIMPLER SITUATION AND THEN EXTRAPOLATE TO MORE DIFFICULT SITUATION. US REPS STATED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN OFFER WOULD BE MUCH MORE CLEAR AND WIDELY ACCEPTED IF IT COVERED PILOT PLANT, AND ROUX STATED THAT IN PRINCIPLE ACCEPTANCE OF SAFEGUARDS COULD EXTEND TO PILOT PLANT.

3. US REPS ASKED WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA INTENDED TO WORK OUT ONLY SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH AGENCY AT THIS TIME OR ALSO TO CONSIDER FACILITY ATTACHMENT. AFTER HEARING EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCE, ROUX AGREED THAT BOTH SHOULD BE DONE. US REPS SAID THAT DIRECT DISCUSSION WITH IAEA WAS APPROPRIATE COURSE FOR SOUTH AFRICA, BUT REITERATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO HELP IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE, INCLUDING TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS IF DESIRED BY SOUTH AFRICA.

4. ROUX SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED VAN DER MERWE OF HIS STAFF TO DISCUSS WITH BORIGHT STATUS OF THEIR ARRANGMENT WITH IAEA. VAN DER MERWE EXPLAINED THAT INSPECTOR GENERAL ROMETSCH HAD AGREED TO SEND TO SOUTH AFRICA DRAFT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT AND SPECIFICATION OF DESIGN INFORMATION NEEDED TO PREPARE FACILITY ATTACHMENT. WHEN THESE ARE RECEIVED BY SOUTH AFRICA, THEY WILL

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SUPPLY REQUESTED INFORMATION AND START DETAILED DISCUSSIONS.

5. IN SEPARATE DISCUSSION, AMB TAPE WAS INFORMED BY ROUX THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS MADE DECISION TO JOIN ZANGGER GROUP. IN FOLLOW-UP, VON SCHIRNDING WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO JOIN IN TIME FOR THE OCTOBER MEETING. TAPE TOLD VON SCHIRNDING THAT LATER MEETING(S) LIKELY TO BE HELD. ALSO, ROUX INFORMALLY ASKED TAPE ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF JOINING

SUPPLIERS GROUP; HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY FRENCH WHY SOUTH AFRICA  
HAD NOT TRIED TO JOIN. TAPE SAID HE COULD NOT GIVE IMMEDIATE  
ANSWER.  
DEXTER

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